



Complete Summary

TITLE

Pneumonia vaccination status: percentage of Medicare members 65 years of age and older who have ever received a pneumococcal vaccination.

SOURCE(S)

National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). HEDIS® 2009: Healthcare Effectiveness Data & Information Set. Vol. 1, Narrative. Washington (DC): National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA); 2008 Jul. 90 p.

National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). HEDIS® 2009: Healthcare Effectiveness Data & Information Set. Vol. 2, Technical Specifications. Washington (DC): National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA); 2008 Jul. various p.

National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). HEDIS® 2009: Healthcare Effectiveness Data & Information Set. Vol. 3, Specifications for Survey Measures. Washington (DC): National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA); 2008 Jul. 98 p.

Measure Domain

PRIMARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Process

The validity of measures depends on how they are built. By examining the key building blocks of a measure, you can assess its validity for your purpose. For more information, visit the [Measure Validity](#) page.

SECONDARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Does not apply to this measure

Brief Abstract

DESCRIPTION

This measure uses survey data to assess the percentage of Medicare members 65 years of age and older as of January 1 of the measurement year who have ever received a pneumococcal vaccination.

RATIONALE

Pneumonia infection is a common cause of illness and death in the elderly. Each year, pneumonia causes an estimated 40,000 deaths among adults in the United States. Pneumonia accounts for more deaths than any other vaccine-preventable bacterial disease. The burden of this disease is high for older adults, but the potential for prevention is also high. Pneumonia infections result in significant health care costs each year, and vaccination is safe and effective.

This measure looks at the number of Medicare members 65 years of age and older who report having received pneumococcal vaccination. The specifications for this measure are consistent with current recommendations from Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).

ACIP recommends pneumococcal vaccine for all individuals who are 65 and older to protect against infection. Many people are unaware of the need for flu shots; many seniors are unaware of the need for vaccination against pneumonia or they harbor misconceptions about the vaccinations' usefulness. Outreach includes awareness through educational efforts or reminder programs. Successful vaccination programs combine publicity and education for health care workers and other potential vaccine recipients. Programs include developing a plan for identifying patients at high risk; use of patient reminder/recall systems; assessment of practice-level vaccination rates with feedback to health care providers and staff and efforts to remove administrative and financial barriers that prevent persons from receiving the vaccine, including use of standing orders programs. Organizations can also contribute to cooperative and communitywide immunization clinics.

PRIMARY CLINICAL COMPONENT

Pneumonia; pneumococcal disease; vaccination

DENOMINATOR DESCRIPTION

The number of members who responded "Yes" or "No" to the question, "Have you ever had a pneumonia shot? This shot is usually given only once or twice in a person's lifetime and is different from the flu shot. It is also called the pneumococcal vaccine."

NUMERATOR DESCRIPTION

The number of members in the denominator who responded "Yes" to the question, "Have you ever had a pneumonia shot? This shot is usually given only once or twice in a person's lifetime and is different from the flu shot. It is also called the pneumococcal vaccine."

Evidence Supporting the Measure

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE CRITERION OF QUALITY

- A clinical practice guideline or other peer-reviewed synthesis of the clinical evidence

- A formal consensus procedure involving experts in relevant clinical, methodological, and organizational sciences

Evidence Supporting Need for the Measure

NEED FOR THE MEASURE

Unspecified

State of Use of the Measure

STATE OF USE

Current routine use

CURRENT USE

Accreditation
Decision-making by businesses about health-plan purchasing
Decision-making by consumers about health plan/provider choice
External oversight/Medicare
Internal quality improvement
National reporting

Application of Measure in its Current Use

CARE SETTING

Managed Care Plans

PROFESSIONALS RESPONSIBLE FOR HEALTH CARE

Measure is not provider specific

LOWEST LEVEL OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERY ADDRESSED

Single Health Care Delivery Organizations

TARGET POPULATION AGE

Age greater than or equal to 65 years

TARGET POPULATION GENDER

Either male or female

STRATIFICATION BY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Unspecified

Characteristics of the Primary Clinical Component

INCIDENCE/PREVALENCE

Unspecified

ASSOCIATION WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

See the "Rationale" field.

BURDEN OF ILLNESS

See the "Rationale" field.

UTILIZATION

Unspecified

COSTS

The medical cost savings from pneumococcal vaccination are substantial. A 1997 study directed at the cost-effectiveness of vaccination against pneumococcal bacteremia among elderly people demonstrated average annual net savings of \$8.27 per person or a total of \$194 million for vaccinating the more than 60 percent of persons 65 years and older who remain unvaccinated against pneumococcal infection.

Another study conducted in 1997 demonstrated that for persons 65 years and older, the vaccine both reduces medical expenses and improves health. Specifically, the study concluded that vaccination resulted in a net gain of 1.21 days of healthy life. For the 23 million unvaccinated elderly in 1993, vaccination would have resulted in approximately 78,000 years of healthy life.

EVIDENCE FOR COSTS

National Institute on Aging. Pneumonia prevention: it's worth a shot [wellness update]. Bethesda (MD): National Institute on Aging; 1999.

Sisk JE, Moskowitz AJ, Whang W, Lin JD, Fedson DS, McBean AM, Plouffe JF, Cetron MS, Butler JC. Cost-effectiveness of vaccination against pneumococcal bacteremia among elderly people. JAMA1997 Oct 22-29;278(16):1333-9. [PubMed](#)

Institute of Medicine National Healthcare Quality Report Categories

IOM CARE NEED

Staying Healthy

IOM DOMAIN

Effectiveness

Data Collection for the Measure

CASE FINDING

Both users and nonusers of care

DESCRIPTION OF CASE FINDING

Medicare members 65 years of age and older as of January 1 of the measurement year who were continuously enrolled for at least six months of the measurement year prior to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) administration of the survey with no gaps in enrollment and currently enrolled at the time the survey is completed

DENOMINATOR SAMPLING FRAME

Enrollees or beneficiaries

DENOMINATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS

Inclusions

The number of members who responded "Yes" or "No" to the question, "Have you ever had a pneumonia shot? This shot is usually given only once or twice in a person's lifetime and is different from the flu shot. It is also called the pneumococcal vaccine."

Exclusions

Unspecified

RELATIONSHIP OF DENOMINATOR TO NUMERATOR

All cases in the denominator are equally eligible to appear in the numerator

DENOMINATOR (INDEX) EVENT

Patient Characteristic

DENOMINATOR TIME WINDOW

Time window precedes index event

NUMERATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS

Inclusions

The number of members in the denominator who responded "Yes" to the question,

"Have you ever had a pneumonia shot? This shot is usually given only once or twice in a person's lifetime and is different from the flu shot. It is also called the pneumococcal vaccine."

Exclusions

Unspecified

MEASURE RESULTS UNDER CONTROL OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS, ORGANIZATIONS AND/OR POLICYMAKERS

The measure results are somewhat or substantially under the control of the health care professionals, organizations and/or policymakers to whom the measure applies.

NUMERATOR TIME WINDOW

Episode of care

DATA SOURCE

Administrative data
Patient survey

LEVEL OF DETERMINATION OF QUALITY

Individual Case

PRE-EXISTING INSTRUMENT USED

Unspecified

Computation of the Measure**SCORING**

Rate

INTERPRETATION OF SCORE

Better quality is associated with a higher score

ALLOWANCE FOR PATIENT FACTORS

Unspecified

STANDARD OF COMPARISON

Internal time comparison

Evaluation of Measure Properties

EXTENT OF MEASURE TESTING

Unspecified

Identifying Information

ORIGINAL TITLE

Pneumonia vaccination status for older adults (PNU).

MEASURE COLLECTION

[HEDIS® 2009: Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set](#)

MEASURE SET NAME

[Effectiveness of Care](#)

MEASURE SUBSET NAME

[Measures Collected Through CAHPS Health Plan Survey](#)

DEVELOPER

National Committee for Quality Assurance

FUNDING SOURCE(S)

Unspecified

COMPOSITION OF THE GROUP THAT DEVELOPED THE MEASURE

National Committee for Quality Assurance's (NCQA's) Measurement Advisory Panels (MAPs) are composed of clinical and research experts with an understanding of quality performance measurement in the particular clinical content areas.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES/OTHER POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

In order to fulfill National Committee for Quality Assurance's (NCQA's) mission and vision of improving health care quality through measurement, transparency and accountability, all participants in NCQA's expert panels are required to disclose potential conflicts of interest prior to their participation. The goal of this Conflict Policy is to ensure that decisions which impact development of NCQA's products and services are made as objectively as possible, without improper bias or influence.

ENDORSER

National Quality Forum

INCLUDED IN

Ambulatory Care Quality Alliance
Physician Quality Reporting Initiative

ADAPTATION

This measure is collected, calculated and reported by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) using the Medicare version of the CAHPS® survey, (Medicare CAHPS® survey).

CAHPS® 4.0 is sponsored by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).

PARENT MEASURE

CAHPS® 4.0 (Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality [AHRQ])

RELEASE DATE

2001 Jan

REVISION DATE

2008 Jul

MEASURE STATUS

This is the current release of the measure.

This measure updates a previous version: National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). HEDIS 2008. Healthcare effectiveness data & information set. Vol. 2, Technical specifications. Washington (DC): National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA); 2007 Jul. various p.

SOURCE(S)

National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). HEDIS® 2009: Healthcare Effectiveness Data & Information Set. Vol. 1, Narrative. Washington (DC): National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA); 2008 Jul. 90 p.

National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). HEDIS® 2009: Healthcare Effectiveness Data & Information Set. Vol. 2, Technical Specifications. Washington (DC): National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA); 2008 Jul. various p.

National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). HEDIS® 2009: Healthcare Effectiveness Data & Information Set. Vol. 3, Specifications for Survey Measures. Washington (DC): National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA); 2008 Jul. 98 p.

MEASURE AVAILABILITY

The individual measure, "Pneumonia Vaccination Status for Older Adults (PNU)," is published in "HEDIS® 2009. Healthcare Effectiveness Data & Information Set. Vol. 2, Technical Specifications."

For more information, contact the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) at 1100 13th Street, NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005; Telephone: 202-955-3500; Fax: 202-955-3599; Web site: www.ncqa.org.

NQMC STATUS

This NQMC summary was completed by ECRI on August 7, 2003. The information was verified by the measure developer on October 24, 2003. This NQMC summary was updated by ECRI on June 16, 2006. The updated information was not verified by the measure developer. This NQMC summary was updated by ECRI Institute on April 21, 2008. The information was verified by the measure developer on May 30, 2008. This NQMC summary was updated again by ECRI Institute on March 27, 2009. The information was verified by the measure developer on May 29, 2009.

COPYRIGHT STATEMENT

This NQMC summary is based on the original measure, which is subject to the measure developer's copyright restrictions.

For detailed specifications regarding the National Committee on Quality Assurance (NCQA) measures, refer to *HEDIS Volume 2: Technical Specifications*, available from the NCQA Web site at www.ncqa.org.

Disclaimer

NQMC DISCLAIMER

The National Quality Measures Clearinghouse™ (NQMC) does not develop, produce, approve, or endorse the measures represented on this site.

All measures summarized by NQMC and hosted on our site are produced under the auspices of medical specialty societies, relevant professional associations, public and private organizations, other government agencies, health care organizations or plans, individuals, and similar entities.

Measures represented on the NQMC Web site are submitted by measure developers, and are screened solely to determine that they meet the NQMC Inclusion Criteria which may be found at <http://www.qualitymeasures.ahrq.gov/about/inclusion.aspx>.

NQMC, AHRQ, and its contractor ECRI Institute make no warranties concerning the content or its reliability and/or validity of the quality measures and related materials represented on this site. The inclusion or hosting of measures in NQMC may not be used for advertising or commercial endorsement purposes.

Readers with questions regarding measure content are directed to contact the measure developer.

[Copyright/Permission Requests](#)

Date Modified: 7/27/2009

